

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Steve Hayes, Area Management Biologist
Eric Newland, Asst. Area Management Biologist
Lower Yukon Area Office
P.O. Box 127
Emmonak, AK 99581
Phone: (907) 949-1320
Fax: (907) 949-1830

U.S. Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Subsistence Board
Geoffrey L. Haskett, Regional Director
Peter J. Probasco, Asst.
Regional Director Subsistence
Fred Bue, Yukon Area Inseason Manager
Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office
101 12th Avenue, Rm 110
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Phone: (907) 455-1849 or 1-800-267-3997
Fax (907) 455-1853

Date Issued: July 3, 2012

2012 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #31

Summer Announcement #26, District 5 Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The Chinook salmon run continues to track considerably below historical averages. The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 81,000 Chinook salmon through July 3 is well below the historical average of 124,000 for this date, and is also below the average passage estimates at this point for late run years, of approximately 106,000.

Consistent with preseason management strategies, subsistence fishing periods have already been cancelled in lower river districts and similar actions are being implemented in Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C.

Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, & 5-C (from Illinois Creek upstream to regulatory markers 2 miles downstream of Waldron Creek): This area includes the communities of Tanana and Rampart as well as the area near the Yukon River Bridge. Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C are currently open and will close at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, July 5, and will remain closed for the next two subsistence salmon fishing periods to conserve Chinook salmon. The department will notify fishermen by July 11 concerning the next subsistence salmon fishing period and schedule for Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C.

Subdistrict 5-D (from 2 miles downstream of Waldron Creek to the U.S./Canada border): This area includes the communities of Stevens Village, Beaver, Fort Yukon, Circle, and Eagle. Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open 7 days per week, 24 hours a day.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a fishing permit is required to fish for all species in the portion of Subdistrict 5-C and 5-D from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the Dall River, and from the upstream mouth of 22-Mile Slough to the US/Canada Border. Subsistence fishermen outside of the permit area are encouraged to fill out their subsistence salmon catch calendars. Calendars are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

In District 5, fishermen may use gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller during open subsistence salmon fishing periods.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fish wheels may not be operated and gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates are available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at (907) 949-1320 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at (907) 455-1845.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

-end-